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D. Ghatt  
05/09/05



P24176.A05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tadashi HAYAMIZU et al.

Group Art Unit: 2854

Appln. No. : 10/654,880

Examiner: Dave A. GHATT

Filed : September 5, 2003

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In response to the Official Action dated February 1, 2005, setting forth a three-month shortened statutory period for response to expire on May 2, 2005 (May 1, 2005 being a Sunday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and objection in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this Response.**

**Remarks begin on page 9 of this Response.**